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VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Dear Editor: It has been suggested that if those nurses who are already taking vocational training under the Federal Board would write the *Journal*, it might be the means of interesting some of those nurses who are as yet unaware of the opportunities open to them through the government vocational plan, or who are carelessly neglecting them. Any nurse who finds herself unable to take up her profession where she left it, through disability of any sort, should consult, at her earliest opportunity, either the Red Cross Division Director of Nursing or the District Vocational Officer of the Federal Board. I can assure her that she will meet with the utmost courtesy and an earnestness on the part of the directors to do all in their power to assist and advise her along the most modern and constructive lines. She will find expert vocational advisers and, depending on her disability status and her physical and mental qualifications, a vast field of new opportunities. Among the many might be mentioned, dietetics, secretarial work, bacteriology, x-ray work, farming, poultry raising, horticulture, landscape gardening, bee raising and various phases of social service and public health work. It is, of course, the desire of the government and to the advantage of the individual, also, to select a vocation built as much as is consistently possible upon the groundwork of the past, but with practically any vocation to choose from, that is not at all difficult. There is another point in this connection with which nurses apparently are not familiar and that is the care and treatment to which they are entitled under the War Risk Insurance Board "for a disability or condition which may result in disability at a future time" acquired in line of duty. While suffering from such disabilities which preclude vocational training, a nurse is entitled to hospital care. Following recovery she is entitled to vocational training. There are different classes and grades of disabilities. They may be mental, nervous or physical. Let the medical experts in the Public Health Service determine that. Meanwhile do not delay. The government puts a time limit on this after-discharge care and it behooves the nurses who have acquainted themselves with the purposes of the government in this respect to pass the word on to those who know it not.

California

E. D. V.

HOW ONE SCHOOL HELPED THE MEMORIAL FUND

Dear Editor: At the recent nurses' convention in Atlanta, the sum of fifty dollars for the Memorial Fund was pledged from the training school of the Delaware Hospital, Wilmington, Delaware. When the pupils of the school heard that this had been pledged they at once set to work individually and collectively to earn the amount. We set apart the first twelve days in May to work for the fund. The end of the time allotted being the 12th of May, and the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the pupils had an evening "At Home," when the money was handed in and counted, and not only were they able to contribute three times the amount pledged, but they were able to start with one hundred dollars, a fund for the training school. After the excitement of counting all the pennies and dimes, a short paper was read on the life of Florence Nightingale, and the pupils were given half an hour to write a brief outline of what had been read. A prize was awarded for the best paper, refreshments served, and we felt an instructive and pleasant evening had been spent. The pupils are now busy preparing to present the Nightingale tableaux and the sum realized from the tableaux will